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PICTURESCOPE

Newsletter of the
PICTURE DIVISION
Special Libraries Association

VOL. VII # 1 April 1959

SLA FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N.J.
May 31 - June 4 1959

PICTURE DIVISION Program Highlights

Sunday May 31	Exhibits 2-6 p.m. First Conventioners Tea 4-5:30 p.m. Entertainment 8-10 p.m. Open House 10-11 p.m.
Monday June 1	
8 a.m.	Picture Division Breakfast: Tower Room, Haddon Hall
2:30 p.m.	Picture Division meeting on Picture Research Speakers: Dr. Edgar Breitenbach Chief, Prints & Photographs Division, Library of Congress Miss Ada Pesin Assistant Editor, Horizon
6:30 p.m.	Picture Division Dinner, followed by Workshop on Basic Steps in Organizing Pictures Presiding: Mrs. Alice P. Hook Chairman, Picture Division E.A. Andrews Chairman, Newspaper Division Panel: Romana Javitz, New York Public Library Joseph E. Molloy, Lbn. Philadelphia Inquirer
Tuesday June 2	
morning	SLA General Session: " What are Standards? "
noon	Picture Division Luncheon and Business Meeting Agenda: a) Report on picture sources b) Discussion: Ethics of Picture Loans c) Program for 1960 meeting d) Revision of Division constitution
2:30 p.m.	Round-table discussion based on morning session. Moderator for Picture Division: Forrest H. Alter, Head, Art, Music & Drama Dept., Flint (Mich.) Public Library.
Wednesday June 3	
morning	SLA General Session and Annual Business Meeting
afternoon	SLA General Session: Panel Discussion: "Planning: Prelude to Progress".
cocktail hour	Convention-wide Dutch Treat cocktail party 6-7:30 p.m.
evening	Banquet

EDITORIAL BOARD: Editor: Minna H. Breuer Associate Editor: Romana Javitz
Production Editors: Ruth Beach Jean McNiece
Address communications to Mrs. Breuer at 143 Melrose Ave. Albany 3, N.Y.

POST - CONVENTION PROGRAM

Thursday June 4	PHILADELPHIA *
8:30 a.m.	Chartered bus from Haddon Hall to the Free Library of Philadelphia
morning	Tour and demonstration of display materials at the Prints & Picture Department of the Library
noon	Luncheon for Division members as guests of the Library (number limited; by reservation only)
2:30 p.m.	Chartered bus to the University Museum for a tour
3:30 p.m.	Walk to nearby Fine Arts Library of the University of Pennsylvania
4:00 p.m.	Guests of the Library staff at tea. Eleanor Worfolk Librarian will serve as hostess
evening	Informal dinner at a Philadelphia restaurant
Friday June 5	WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE **
11:00 a.m.	Chartered bus leaves City Hall, Philadelphia
noon	Lunch at Powder Mill Restaurant, one mile from the Museum
1:00 p.m.	Guided tour of the Museum
3:30 p.m.	Chartered bus leaves for Philadelphia

* Estimated cost $7 - 9 if bus is chartered from Atllantic City
** Estimated cost $10.00 including fare and lunch

THE CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

This golden anniversary is passing rapidly into history, but its climax will be the convention in Atlantic City. The Program Planning Committee of the Picture Division , Fran Schacht and Dorothy Litchfield, is working closely with the Association and the plans, which you have just read , are made with the expectation that every one of you will be there.

Have you used this " golden " opportunity to bring SLA and its activities to the attention of your colleagues, your clientele, your administration, and others with whom you come in contact ? SLA's fifty years of service has done much to further research in many fields. It is not too late - promote the Fiftieth Anniversary in every way you can.

The convention in June will be only the eighth one for our Division but already it is a group that holds its own and attracts attention. Your officers remain the same for 1959 - 1960; carrying on for another year. Certain hopes and plans are formulating and it is with renewed enthusiasm that we look forward to a more active future.

It is the m e m b e r s of the Division who are important. Come to the convention with your questions and answers, your suggestions and criticisms. Through our discussions we will come to conclusions which should be of value to everyone in the picture business, whether locating, making, storing, preserving, serving or using.

- Mrs. Alice P.Hook
Chairman
Picture Division

WANTED - trade and company publications! SLA is justifiably proud of reaching this birthday and wants it known far and wide. Don't you have a company publication which can help spread this news? Do you know of a trade magazine which can use a story? Perhaps you can arrange a talk at a meeting or even a radio or TV spot.

SLA publicity kits are available to all who can use them. They are crammed with a wide variety of articles and sample news releases as well as short pieces which are perfect as " fillers." Let's show that Picture Division though still one of the young fry, can do a bang-up job of publicity. Contact me for your publicity kits.

- Mildred L. Joy, Librarian
(50th Anniversary Chairman)
National Broadcasting Co.,
30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N.Y.

NEW YORK GROUP

On January 13th, a meeting of the New York Picture Group was held jointly with the Museum Group at the Museum of the City of New York. Naturally any excuse to visit this museum is always welcome but this particular evening was a real delight.

The attraction of the evening was the exhibition of the Byron photographs of New York - not the photographs alone, but a guided tour by Grace Mayer herself. The exhibition was held in conjunction with the publication of Miss Mayer's book Once Upon a City, with which most readers of PICTURESCOPE are familiar by this time. Miss Mayer, curator of prints at the Museum, spoke informally as we stood in groups before the photographs. Then we wandered through the exhibition at our leisure, enjoying the individual prints and comparing favorites.

The meeting was informative and delightful, and although we were at the Museum a good two hours, the time still seemed far too short.

- Molli Ochab
Picture Collection, N.Y.P.L.

WASHINGTON GROUP

On January 20th, the Picture Group of the Washington Chapter, SLA, met for luncheon at the Tally-Ho Restaurant. The guest of honor and speaker was Virgil Carrington Jones, author of Grey Ghosts and Rebel Raiders, and other books about the Civil War.

Mr. Jones gave a fascinating account of the part played by photography in documenting history. Specifically, he showed how photographs proved his case that a long-disputed letter found on the body of Colonel Ulrich Dahlgren was actually written by the Confederate officer before his ill-fated attempt to capture Richmond.

- Alice Lee Parker
Prints & Photographs Division
Library of Congress

CONCERNING " MEET MR. LINCOLN "

On the eve of the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, NBC - TV presented "Meet Mr. Lincoln," which told the story of Lincoln in the war years by a remarkable combination of words, music and actual photographs and drawings of the times.

This achievement was in no small way aided by picture librarians, archivists and others who have saved masses of pictorial material from destruction, and who had cared for and classified the thousands of pictorial documents necessary to such an outstanding production.

Daniel W. Jones, chief of picture research for NBC Special Projects, and his colleagues examined more than 25 000 pictures of the life and times of Lincoln. Sources ranged from the great National Archives to obscure private collections, some of which first came to the attention of picture people while this project was under way.

The program's use of moving cameras to bring a sense of movement to the photographs on which they were trained was an outstanding feature. These camera animation techniques, new to television, were developed by Donald B. Hyatt, Special Projects Director.

When Mrs. Alice P. Hook, Picture Division Chairman, wrote to compliment NBC on its excellent production made possible by this imaginative use of still pictures, the reply she received from Mr. Hyatt included the following paragraphs:

> "As you may suspect this program would not have been possible without the cooperation of many historical societies throughout the country.
>
> "We are planning other programs utilizing stills and prints of past history."

For "historical societies" you may read "libraries, archives, private collections . . . etc." The final paragraph is to alert you to the demands to come! Last minute word is that a work in progress is a picture story on Mark Twain. - M.H.B.

SIOUX INDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS

Margaret Rose, Librarian, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Liberty Memorial Building, Bismarck, N.D. writes:

"We have just completed the task of making prints from over 4 000 negatives, about three-fourths of which are on glass. The photos were taken by Frank Fiske, photographer at Fort Yates, agency headquarters for the Sioux Indians, over a period of about fifty years. The collection includes portraits of Rain-in-the-Face, Gall, Sitting Bull, John Grass, warriors who fought in the Battle of the Little Big Horn, and men, women, and children in Indian dress. In addition there are photographs of the military post, and Indian agency buildings, pupils and teachers, and steamboats, the various small towns on the reservation, rodeos, parades, religious processions. The collection covers the period of acculturation of the Sioux and should prove especially valuable to anthropologists and historians. The negatives are the property of Mrs. Frank Fiske."

DISPUTE ON FIRST AERIAL PHOTO

When was the first picture taken in America from the air? A recent issue of Flying identified one "Flashlight" Lawrence as the "first aerial photographer." The magazine said that by using balloons, kites, and ingenuity he obtained the first air picture in 1906. The subject was the San Francisco earthquake area.

But Edward Rowe Snow, the New England marine historian, disputes this. He says that he has found in the Boston Athenaeum an aerial photograph taken by one J.W.Black from a balloon over downtown Boston on Oct. 13, 1860. Photography in 1860 meant the use of wet plates, which in this case had to be prepared high in the sky a few moments before the actual pictures could be attempted. Curtains were dropped in the balloon so the photographer could work on the plates in darkness. By the time the balloon reached 1200 feet, he was able to take six pictures. (UPI release: New York Times, March 2, 1959, p. 19)

OHIO ITEMS

The Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio has been issuing in the Sunday Pictorial Section of the Cincinnati Enquirer a series called "Presenting the Past." The extensive collections of pictures in the Society's library have been the basis for these popular pieces.

The Annual Spring Exhibit of the Society will open April 9, 1959 at the Taft Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio. Entitled "Across the Footlights, Cincinnati Theatre, 1801-1921 " it will tell in pictures, posters, and mementoes, the glamorous story of the theatre in this Midwest community. The exhibition will remain on view through June, 1959.

MICROFILM CENTENNIAL

The theme of the 8th annual meeting of the National Microfilm Association (April 2-4, 1959) is " A Century of Microfilm Progress, 1859-1959," commemorating the centennial of the first microfilm patent, granted in Paris, June 21, 1859, to Rene Prudent Patrice Dagron. Dagron is best remembered for his extensive use of microfilm during the siege of Paris in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. More than 300 000 letters and dispatches were reproduced on microfilm and flown by carrier pigeon into Paris after the city had been surrounded and cut off completely from communication with the outside world. The "pigeon post" anticipated the V-Mail of World War II. ... (LC Information Bulletin, Vol. 18, No.8, Feb. 24, 1959, p. 114)

DIVISION AUTHOR

Division Chairman Alice P.Hook is the author of an article entitled "The Historical Society Library"in the March 1959 issue of Special Libraries(pp. 114-118)

FROM THE EDITOR

The Index to PICTURESCOPE Volume VI (1958) will be published with the next issue of this newsletter.

The Editor will welcome suggestions and new ideas about this newsletter. Please send them for presentation at our Annual Meeting at the convention.

The enclosed brochure "Type Specimens" is sent to members through the courtesy of The New York Public Library.

WE SEE THAT

Alma Eggleston has resigned as Chief of the Picture Library of Life . . . Doris O'Neil has been appointed to this post . . . Grace Mayer, distinguished Curator of Prints at the Museum of the City of New York resigns as of April 30th, 1959 . . . Ruth Beach, Picture Collection and Jean McNiece, Manuscripts Division, N.Y.P.L. are dropping in on the Lascaux Caves this summer to check on prehistoric documentary pictures . . . Romana Javitz will give a one day seminar as part of the "Communications Librarians' Workshop "co-sponsored by the Schools of Journalism and Library Science at Syracuse University, June 15-26, 1959.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Since August 1958 Picture Division has enrolled eleven new members as opposed to three " drops " and two resignations. This encouraging trend can be maintained if each Division member will send in names and addresses of prospective members. Your membership chairman is ready to follow up all leads.

For the convenience of those members who received the August 1958 Membership List we are adding a supplementary page to this issue of PICTURESCOPE. This may be attached to the List to bring your record up to date.

- C.Eugene Hoyt, Membership Chmn.
Dell Publishing Co.,
750 Third Ave., New York 17,N.Y.

WELCOME TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED RECENTLY:

Mr. Paul Stoddard Amos
Madison Square Hotel
35 Madison Ave., N.Y. 10, N.Y.

Mr. James H. Davis
924 Washington
Denver 3, Colorado

Miss Evaline Jackson, Director
Division of Librarianship
Emory University
406 Library Building
Atlanta 22, Georgia

Mr. Robert A.Lopez, Librarian
Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co.,
425 Portland Ave.,
Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Miss Charlotte M.Madison, Lbn.
Compton Advertising, Inc.
625 Madison Ave.,
New York 22, N.Y.

Miss Eleanor Mitchell
Fine Arts Committee
People-to-People Program
c/o Corcoran Gallery of Art
Washington 6, D.C.

Miss Elsie A. Phillips
1627 E.Fifth Street
Tucson, Arizona

Miss Dorothy E.Powers, Curator
Rare Book Department
Inland Rivers Library
Public Library of Cincinnati
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Miss Mildred Schulman
602 W. 165 St., Apt. 4
New York 32, N.Y.

Mrs. Nora K. Tarka
52 Bank Street
New York 14, N.Y.

Mr. Thomas Van Camp Hull
American Legion National Headquarters
Box #1055 . Indianapolis 6, Indiana

PICTURE DIVISION OFFICERS 1958 - 1960

Chairman	Mrs.Alice P.Hook, Librarian, Hostorical & Philosophical Society of Ohio, Cincinnati 21, Ohio
Vice-Chairman (Chairman-Elect)	Franziska Gay Schacht, Photo-Librarian, Picture Collection New York Public Library, 42 St. & Fifth Ave., New York 18
Secretary-Treasurer	Mrs.Caroline H.Backlund, Lbn. & Head, Picture Collection American Heritage Pub. Co., 551 Fifth Ave.,New York 17
Archivist	Louise Leak, First Assist., Picture Collection, New York Public Library, 42 St. & Fifth Ave., New York 18 N.Y.
Editor of PICTURESCOPE	Mrs. Minna H.Breuer, 143 Melrose Ave., Albany 3, N.Y.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 1958 - 1959

Convention: Coordinator	Dorothy H.Litchfield, Head, Prints & Picture Department Free Library of Philadelphia,Logan Square, Phila. 3, Pa.
Program	Franziska Schacht
50th Anniver.	Mildred L.Joy, Chief Lbn., NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, N.Y. 20
Monitor	Marion Weithorn, Picture Collection, New York P.L.
Directory	Mrs. Helen Faye, Picture Editor, Textbook Department, Harcourt Brace & Co., 720 Third Avenue, N.Y. 17, N.Y.
Ethics	Marjory Douglas, Curator, Missouri Historical Society St. Louis 12, Missouri
Membership	C.Eugene Hoyt, Lbn., Dell Pub. Co., 750 Third Ave., N.Y. 17,N.Y.

NEW YORK PICTURE GROUP OFFICERS 1958 - 1959

Chairman	Pearl Moeller, Supervisor,Photo. Services, Museum of Modern Art
Vice-Chairman	Richard Farrar
Secretary	Wanda Y. Manton, Culver Service

WASHINGTON(D.C.)PICTURE GROUP OFFICERS 1958 - 1959

Chairman	Joe Dean Thomas, Still Pictures, National Archives
Vice-Chairman	Eleanor Mitchell, People-to-People Program
Secretary	Virginia Daiker, Prints & Photographs Div.,Library of Congress

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P I C T U R E S C O O P E : issued quarterly as a newsletter free to members of the PICTURE DIVISION of the SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION, 31 East Tenth Street, New York 3, New York

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Name_____ Date_____

Organization or Institution_____

Address_____ City_____ Zone_____ State_____

PICTURE DIVISION MEMBERSHIP LIST SUPPLEMENT APRIL 1959

The following should now be listed under their personal names instead of their firms or libraries, having transferred from institutional to individual memberships. The addresses, however remain as business addresses and are the same as they appeared in the August 1958 List. The original institutional listing is indicated in parentheses.

Margaret D. Cooke
(Canadian Broadcasting Corp.)

Duane R.Day
(Campbell-Mithun, Inc.)

Hannah J. Howell
(Frick Art Reference Library)

Natalie Kosek
(Life Magazine)

Loretta U. McConnell
(Remington Rand Univac)

Rosalind H. Morrison
(Doherty, Clifford, Steers & Shenfield, Inc)

Matthew Redding
(New York World-Telegram)

Mrs. Doris E.Saunders
(Johnson Publishing Co., Inc.)

Robert H. Simonds (Minneapolis Public Library)

* * * *

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Stoddard Amos
Madison Square Hotel
35 Madison Ave., N.Y. 10, N.Y.

Mr. James H. Davis
924 Washington
Denver 3, Colorado

Miss Evaline Jackson, Director
Division of Librarianship
Emory University
406 Library Building
Atlanta 22, Georgia

Mr. Robert A. Lopez, Lbn.
Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co.,
425 Portland Ave.,
Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Miss Charlotte M. Madison, Lbn.
Compton Advertising, Inc.
625 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.

Miss Eleanor Mitchell
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People - to-People Program
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Enclosed in PICTURESCOPE V. VII # 1 April 1959